

# LIONS VISION



A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF MULTIPLE DISTRICT 22 LIONS, LIONESSES AND LEO CLUBS Fall 2015

## Do You Believe?

An article by PDG John J. Shwed, LVRV Development committee Chairperson



PDG John J. Shwed

apparently thought so because in the Declaration of Independence they wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Do you believe man is a very adaptive, inquisitive creature? Let's take a quick look at history. Over the centuries man has done some amazing things. First, the discovery of fire provided warmth, light, protection from wild animals and cooked food. Wheels led to faster transportation. Navigation developed as man left his cave and looked skyward and found the North Star in the night sky. He developed an understanding of the seasons.

Great sailing ships explored the seas leading to the discovery of America. Brave adventurers established colonies. People learned how to farm. Food became plentiful. Steam, oil and electricity were discovered. Next came the Industrial Revolution. People were lifted out of poverty and an optimistic middle class strengthened the fabric of the country. Thousands of inventions changed life styles. The airplane was invented just over a hundred years ago. A rocket took astronauts to the moon in 1969. Apple

In this issue I pose a philosophical question to my readers: Do you believe man is a unique creature? Beliefs are a mental conviction. They are internalized and very personal to you. Philosophically, beliefs are very different from measurable facts like time and temperature. Our Founding Fathers

invented the computer. In 2015 smart phones and social media provide instantaneous communication world wide in seconds. New words like "selfie" have been added to the English language.

NASA is developing the Space Launch System, a new massive rocket which will stand just under 400 feet on the launch pad and will be capable of lifting a payload of 130 metric tons from the pull of Earth's gravity. Imagine the power of those engines compared to the one in your car. They plan to go to Mars. Do you believe they will do it? I do. It is just a matter of when. I'm confident they will figure out how. And, those astronauts will be just like those early sailors who took to the great sailing ships not really knowing all the answers to the mysteries that lay ahead. Along man's journey he made tremendous strides in medicine. The human life span has been extended and the root causes and cures for many diseases have been found. But there is much more to be done.

Do you believe as a member of Lions International that you belong to the world's premier humanitarian service organization? Do you believe that the MD-22 Lions have world-class medical and scientific partners at the Lions Vision Center and its parent, the Johns Hopkins' Wilmer Eye Institute? Do you believe in your work and theirs?

Do you believe that if breakthroughs in eliminating blindness are to happen, they will happen as a result of our partnership? I do. I believe the Creator as referenced in the Declaration of Independence has endowed man with an unlimited intellectual capacity to find solutions to new problems. I encourage all clubs to send representatives to the annual Rally to hear the latest eye research highlights from Dr. McDonnell and the Wilmer Team. Their presentations will reinforce your beliefs.



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## Chairman's Message

Greetings from your Chairman,

As I look at next year's budget items and at LOVRNET's progress, I am reminded of Lions' and clubs' generosity over this past year. We at the Foundation say Thank You!

The upcoming year will bring another great Rally on November 21, 2015. PDG John Schwed has another exciting theme planned.

The Vision Days patch has been revived. If your Lion's Club participates in a Vision Days Collection you are eligible for a patch to be placed on your club's banner. If a Vision Days has not occurred in your area in awhile, this is a great opportunity to tell the folks in your service area about the Lions' projects for vision. Helen Keller asked the Lions to be her Knights for the Blind.

Enjoy your Lions' year,

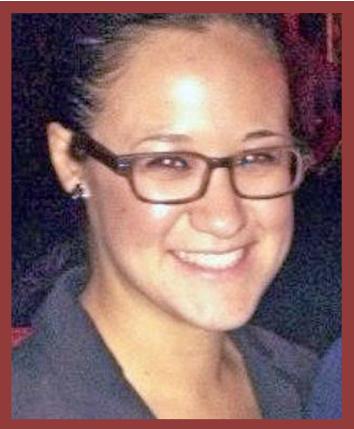
*Rodney Timmons*

LVRF Chairman



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## Dr. Ashley Deemer is new Lions Low Vision Fellow



Dr. Ashley Deemer is the newest Lions Low Vision Fellow having started her one-year fellowship on July 1, 2015.

This Fellowship was established to create the next generation of low vision experts in rehabilitation, delivering service and teaching others how to provide low vision services. Thus, a fellowship program has been created where a doctor with advanced training will spend a year working at Wilmer doing research, resident education and patient care in the clinic. LVRF has been supporting this fellowship with \$100,000 annually. This very successful program has become a highly sought after fellowship.

When asked to comment on her appointment to this Fellowship, Dr. Deemer said, "I am very excited and honored to be here this year at the Lions Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center as the newest Lions Low Vision Fellow."

Dr. Deemer first became interested in low vision through her grandmother's experience of vision loss due to severe glaucoma. Said Dr. Deemer, "My aim throughout my training was to become more involved in this inspiring area of optometry".

She grew up in Redondo Beach, California and completed her undergraduate degree at the University of California San Diego. She "traded in the surf for the snow" and spent the last five years in Boston at the New England College of Optometry. She then completed her residency at Primary Care / Low Vision Rehabilitation at the VA Boston Healthcare System.

She has not been in our region very long, but, she says, "I have learned to love the Chesapeake (and the crabs) and am very eager to learn even more."

We welcome Dr. Deemer and wish her well as she pursues her goals in life!

## IN MEMORIAM

PAST LVRF CHAIRMAN WILLIAM L. BULLA

1923-2015



MD-22 lost a well-respected, dedicated Lion on May 30, 2015. I had the honor and privilege to serve as LVRF Vice-Chairman during the administration of Chairman Bill Bulla. To his friends he was known as "Bill". Chairman Bill Bulla was part of the early group of Chairmen who helped shape the organization during its formative years. During his term as Foundation Chairman from 1994-96 he used his excellent leadership skills honed in the private sector to rally the

Trustees around the low vision mission recommended by Dr. Patz and Dr. Bob Massof. Through his support of the development and implementation of organizational policies and good practices, LVRF grew into a very effective, well-functioning humanitarian service foundation. Chairman Bill was a great mentor to me. I am grateful for his outstanding guidance and coaching which helped prepare me for my service as LVRF Chairman and later Chairman of the Endowment Fund Campaign. Chairman Bill truly left "footprints in the sands of Lions service" that will be remembered for generations.

Born October 8, 1923 in Henryetta, OK, he was the son of the late Francis Thomas and Eula Hisaw Bulla. He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Barbara A. Pope; a son, William E. Bulla, Jr.; a brother, Thomas Bulla; a sister, Lillian Bulla Mainhart; and a niece, Sybil Van Arsdale.

Chairman Bill was responsible for the management of seven shopping centers, including Valley Mall, Frederick Towne Mall and Country Club Mall. He served on the Board of Directors for the Maryland State and the Washington County Chapter of the American Cancer Society; Washington County Economic Development Commission; Hagerstown/Washington County Chamber of Commerce; Habitat for Humanity of Washington County; Girl Scouts of Shawnee Council; and United Way of Washington County. In addition to his service with the MD-22 Lions Vision Research Foundation, Past Chairman Bill was active in the International Association of Lions Clubs in Washington, D.C., Williamsport, and North Hagerstown.

Chairman Bill worked with Habitat's Annual Auction Committee and wrote a column "Building Homes." He was president of the North Hagerstown Lions Club several times and was District Governor for District 22-W (1988-89). He had 39 years of perfect attendance at Lions meetings. He taught clas-

ses in marketing, building and leasing shopping malls, and authored chapters for a textbook used at the State University of New York. He wrote a regular column for the Picket News and contributed occasional feature stories. His water color painting was his passion!

He was a U.S. Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. He attended the Columbia School of Art in Washington, George Washington University and the Corcoran Museum School of Art. In 1951, he met and married Barbara Pope (nee Ammann), a widow with two children. They had one son, William L. Bulla, Jr. For the last 18 years, he has been a member of the Good Shepherd Ministries, where he taught adult Sunday School and established and edited the monthly newsletter for his church.

**Editor's Note:** This obituary was personalized by PDG Shwed, who knew PDG Bulla well during the early days of the LVRF.

## TRUNK OF TREASURES

The raffling off of the Trunk of Treasures is just around the corner. Tickets (see below) are available from any



LVRF Committee Member or call: (410) 310-6660. The raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. The drawing will be on Saturday, October 17th, 2015 at the Pintail Point Aim for Sight fundraiser.

The Trunk of Treasures is shown below:



# LIONS VISION DAYS

## **“Lions do Vision Days to put Lions in Vision!”**

Lion Bob Bullock, Lions Vision Days Chairperson, said this while discussing the upcoming Lions Vision Days. “They are right around the corner”, he said. Specifically, the second Friday and Saturday of October is the traditional Lions Vision Days weekend, while the second Friday and Saturday of April is an alternate weekend. However, he said, “if that doesn’t meet your club’s schedule, Lions Vision Days can be most anytime.” He pointed out that one thing would be different this year: candy won’t be available from the LVRF. Instead it is suggested that balloons, pencils etc. and the Lions Vision Center trifold brochures be handed out.

Lions, it’s time to make your plans for this most important fundraiser. This year, you will have additional help in preparing for this event and to make it more successful than ever!

A Booklet written initially in 2002 and revised this year has been prepared. It’s title is simple:

### **VISION DAYS**

#### **“HOW TO GUIDE”**

**for Lions, Lioness and Leos**

**throughout Delaware, District of Columbia and Maryland.**

This is a 19-page booklet which covers all the aspects of preparing for and executing a successful Lions Vision Day event.

It is divided into 6 sections: (1) *Our Mission*; (2) *Set Your Dollar Goal*; (3) *Lions Vision Days Checklist*; (4) *Sharing Your Message*; (5) *Samples* and (6) *Who We Are*.

It gives you information about LVRF and The Wilmer Eye Institute so that you can talk intelligently to those who stop at your location. There are many tips about how to approach and treat your visitors so that you will receive a healthy donation. It stresses that these passersby may have no knowledge of LVRF, or Lions for that matter, and you should have a well rehearsed speech telling them about the LVRF and what your club does for the community.

Preparation is most important. Release a barrage of Lions Vision Day publicity in the community giving specific locations and specified times for the event. You could also state that you will be collecting used eyeglasses. Send letters to businesses to get permission to be there, or put posters on their store premises. Ask them to contribute.

Publicity is paramount. Press releases and spot announcements should be sent to the media in your community. If possible, have your mayor or town official proclaim Vision Days and publicize this. By all means have a Fact Sheet describing what Lions Vision Days is and who it helps.

This booklet is soon to be released in printed form and should be delivered to all clubs in early October. It may be found now on the LVRF website:

[www.LionsVision.org](http://www.LionsVision.org), click on **Programs**.

## AIM FOR SIGHT SPORTING CLAY SHOOT

As in previous years, the LVRF is sponsoring an “Aim for Sight” sporting clay shoot at two locations. If you want to take your “shot” at making a difference for people with low vision, then you are invited to participate in the LVRF Aim for Sight Sporting Clay Shoot on Saturday, October 10th at the Mayberry Gun Club or October 17th at The Point at Pintail. (The addresses of both are listed on page 6.) Come out and test your shooting skills, accuracy, and sense of humor during this fun charity event. All proceeds from the events will be used to support the Lions Low Vision Research Foundation.

The cost to participate is \$65 per shooter or \$240 per team. Registration includes lunch between 11:30-1:30. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams and individual shooters. Everyone comes away a winner! You don’t have to have a foursome to participate. If you cannot get a team, you will be teamed up with other shooters.

The registration table opens at 9:00 am. Start times will be staggered with the first start time at 9:30 am. To accommodate shooters traveling from the distance locations, later start times will be assigned. You will be notified prior to the event as to your start time.

If you’re not a shooter but wish to support the event, you can become a sponsor. The various categories of sponsors and a registration form is on page 6.

Another way you or your club can show your support is to donate a prize(s) that will be presented to the participants. Examples of prizes that were donated in the past include gift certificates, shot gun shells, mugs, hunting knives, etc. If you would like to donate a prize or have questions about the events, please contact one of the Lions listed at the bottom of page 6.



# Lions Vision Research Foundation

## Aim for Sight

### Sporting Clay Shoot

Saturday, October 10, 2015 – Mayberry Road

Saturday, October 17, 2015 – Pintail Point



Pintail Point Welcome Center: 511 Pintail Point Farm Lane, Queenstown, MD 21658

Maryland Shooters Range: 2555 Mayberry RD, Westminster, MD 21158

Aim for Sight is a fundraiser for the Lions Vision Research Foundation (LVRF), a 501(c) 3 foundation whose primary purpose is to support low vision research and rehabilitation and to minimize the disabilities caused by low vision and blindness. The objectives of the LVRF are being met through its partnership with the Lions Vision Research and Rehabilitation Center (LVC), at the Wilmer Eye Institute of The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland.

All donations to LVRF are tax deductible but more important are the research and rehabilitation efforts this donation will support in giving hope to the blind and low vision population. For the past few years we have funded a Post-Doctorate Fellowship. These Fellows have not only conducted significant research which could have national implications but have reduced the waiting time for an appointment to the LVC to a few days or less. Due to our efforts many new clinics have been established throughout the state and the country.

Your donation will allow us to continue this outstanding effort.

Donations qualify for LVRF Awards (Pyramids or Arnal Patz Fellows) and accumulate over five years.



#### Please Complete and return to:

Lion Dal Mann, PDG  
22944 Lyn Oaks Drive  
Preston, MD 21655

**Due Date: October 1, 2015**



Type Sponsor	Donation	Payment
Platinum Sponsor	\$1,000	
Gold Sponsor	\$500	
Station Sponsor	\$100	
Program Book Ad:		
Full Page	\$100	
Half Page	\$60	
Quarter Page	\$40	
<b>TOTAL DONATION</b>		

With your payment please include the message to put on your station signs or the art work that you wish included in the program book message.

Full Page 7.5" x 4.5"  
Half Page 3.75" x 4.5"  
Quarter Page 3.75" x 2.25"

Sponsors Message: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach Artwork for Program Book Ad:

Honorary Donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_ in the name/honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: "LVRF Aim for Sight"

For Information Contact:

Lion Dal Mann, 410-673-9085  
Lion Gary Burdette, 301-916-3098  
Lion John Lawrence, 410-725-0150  
Lion Richard Liebno 410-848-4929  
Lion Clyde Bragg 302-284-8052

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richard.lion@comcast.net  
cib1147@aol.com

# LOVRNET - EMERGING FROM A DREAM

There is a lot of talk about LOVRNET these days, but in spite of that, there seems to be many Lions who have not heard of it or who really don't know how it came about, what it is today and, more importantly, what is it going to be when operating in accordance with the dream of Dr. Massof. One of the leaders of the LOVRNET program is PDG Ken Chew; he was asked to shed light on the questions above. Below is his answer to these questions, *in his own words*.....

Four years ago I began my LOVRNET journey when I was asked to be the LCIF Coordinator for MD 22 by Past International President Clem Kusiak. Shortly after beginning my first three-year term as MD 22 LCIF Coordinator, I was informed, again by PIP Clem, that I was going to be the Grant Administrator along with PDG Charlene Travers who was going to be the Project Chairperson for the LCIF grant to create LOVRNET. We both only knew then that there was an \$810,774 LCIF proposed grant that was being reviewed by the LCIF Sight First Committee. MD 22 actually received \$567,646 from LCIF and the rest of the money came from a Reader's Digest grant.

I had a little knowledge of LOVRNET from listening to Dr. Bob Massof's excellent presentation at an LVRF Dinner in District 22D. His was a dream that I was only beginning to understand but I did know that this was something I did want to do. Three years later I am still trying to understand all of the intricate parts of this wonderful dream.

LOVRNET has been a long three-year journey with some unexpected missteps along the way, but we are now almost into the final year of completion. One rather odd misstep took place at a family gathering for my oldest grandson's birthday. One of the extended family members at this event was my wife's 16-year-old nephew, who heard the conversation at the table about his Uncle Kenny, that's me, talking about doing one of the first filming of a LOVRNET eye care doctor's presentation at John Hopkins.. My nephew blurted out that he didn't know that his "Uncle Kenny" was making a porno web site called LOVRNET.

LOVRNET, while not a "porno" site, is mostly an Internet site with the potential to help thousands of people in Multiple District 22 who suffer from Low Vision. Our LOVRNET website is up and running; we have over 100 Lion volunteers to do patient interviews; we have almost 40 Lion Clubs who have volunteers to do Direct Service, mostly transportation, for patients with low vision; and we have several eye doctors who are joining our LOVRNET project as resources to local Lions Clubs and providers of service for low vision patients.

Finally, the LOVRNET Steering Committee is planning the future of LOVRNET once the LCIF grant is finished in November of 2016. There have been some encouraging signs about the future of LOVRNET from Lions in other Multiple Districts. The Lions of Tennessee are in the process of writing their own LCIF grant, want our expertise with LOVRNET, and will possibly be purchasing some of the pieces of

LOVRNET. There also has been contact from the Lions of Alabama and California about LOVRNET. LOVRNET's future is still like looking through a cloudy mirror but what I see so far seems very promising.

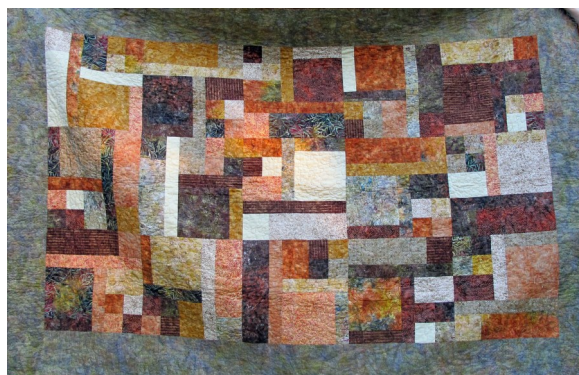
LOVRNET still needs more Lion volunteers to be telephone interviewers, direct service providers, and schedulers for new low vision patients. Like "Uncle Sam" once said: "I need you!" Putting it another way ~



**LOVRNET needs YOU!**


To volunteer, please contact Project Administrator Tanesha Vasquez at either (410) 737-2671 or [tvvasquez@lovrnet.org](mailto:tvvasquez@lovrnet.org).

## LVRF QUILT RAFFLE



This beautiful twin size quilt was hand made by District Governor Susan Timmons and machine quilted by her mother. The raffle ticket is shown below. If you wish to buy a ticket or have any questions, please contact PDG Susan Timmons at: (717) 597-4500 or [sktimmons@comcast.net](mailto:sktimmons@comcast.net).

Tickets are \$1.00 for one; \$5.00 for six. Drawing will be held at the District 22W Region III-IV LVRF Banquet on October 31, 2015.

	Twin Size Quilt Raffle <small>(Hand made by PDG Susan Timmons; Machine quilted by her mother)</small>	Name: _____
	Benefit: Lions Vision Research Foundation (LVRF) Operating Fund Tickets Donation: 1-\$1.00; 6-\$5.00 Drawing: October 31, 2015; LVRF Banquet	Phone: _____



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Lions Vision Research Foundation, Inc.  
At the Wilmer Eye Institute, the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions  
P. O. Box 1714, Baltimore, MD 21203-1714

Lions Day with LVRF and the Wilmer Eye Institute requests  
the honor of your presence at

# The Mane Event

Lions Day at the Wilmer Eye Institute

**Saturday, November 21, 2015**



8:45 am	Social
9:30 am	Program
11:30 am	Lunch & Tours

Johns Hopkins Owens Auditorium  
at the Koch Cancer Research Building  
1550 New Orleans Street  
Baltimore, MD 21251

To attend "The Mane Event" please email the  
Administrative Manager, Kelly Zimmerman at  
[LVRV.KELLY@gmail.com](mailto:LVRV.KELLY@gmail.com)

